

Appl. No. : 10/731,989
Filed : December 9, 2003

REMARKS

By this paper, Applicants have amended Claims 2-7, 9-13, 15, and 18. These amendments were made for the purposes of clarification and grammatical correction, and not for the purposes of patentability. Thus, Claims 1-26 and 32-33 remain pending and presented for Examination.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claims 4-7 and 9-13, providing a list of claim informalities and appropriate corrections. *O.A.*, at pp. 2-3. By this paper, Applicants have amended Claims 4-7 and 9-13 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to Claims 4-7 and 9-13 overcome the Examiner's objections to the claims.

The Examiner also rejected Claims 2, 3, 15, and 18 as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2. *O.A.*, at pp. 3-4. In response, Applicants have amended Claims 2, 3, 15, and 18 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to Claims 2, 3, 15, and 18 overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2.

The Examiner further stated that Claims 1, 8, 14, 16-17, 19-26, and 32-33 are allowed. *O.A.*, at p. 5. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claims overcome all outstanding rejections and objections to the pending claims, and that each of Claims 1-26 and 32-33 is now in condition for allowance, and requests the allowance of all pending claims.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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